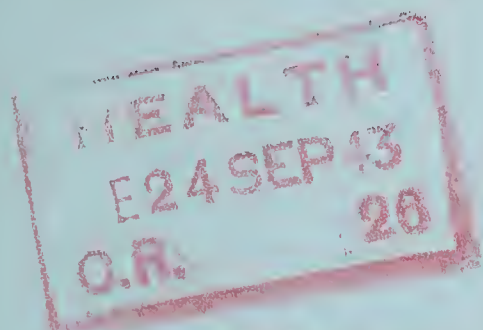


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ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1942

BY


W. C. DAVIDSON

M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.T.M. and H.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

RET FORD

WHARTONS LTD, GROVE STREET
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EAST RETFORD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1942

BY W. C. DAVIDSON,
M.D., CH.B., D.P.H.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
YORKSHIRE PENNY BANK BUILDINGS,
MARKET PLACE, RETFORD

*To the Chairman and Members of the
East Retford Rural District Council.*

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report on the health of the District for the year 1942, which has been drawn up in accordance with the instructions issued by the Ministry of Health in their Circular No. 2773.

The report, as in previous years, is brief, and gives only an outline of the work done during the year.

Dr. D. S. Clark resigned his appointment as Medical Officer of Health in March 1942, and I assumed duty on 7th May, 1942.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

W. CAMPBELL DAVIDSON

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area111,024 acres

*Estimated resident population, mid-year 1940 19,280

*Number of inhabited houses at the end of 1940 .. 5,245

Rateable value at 1st April, 1943£97,942

Sum represented by a Penny Rate at 1st April, 1943 .. £396

*It has been considered inadvisable meantime for later tables of local population to be published in reports of Medical Officers of Health.

VITAL STATISTICS

LIVE BIRTHS—	Total	M.	F.	
Legitimate	257	135	122	
Illegitimate	13	4	9	
Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population				13.29
Birth Rate for England & Wales per 1,000 population				15.8

STILL BIRTHS—	Total	M	F	
Legitimate	13	7	6	
Illegitimate	Nil	Nil	Nil	
Rate per 1,000 TOTAL Births				48.15
Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population				0.64
Rate per 1,000 population England & Wales				0.54

DEATHS	Total	M	F	
	216	110	106	
Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population				10.63
Death Rate per 1,000 population in England & Wales				11.6

The preparation and issue of the Registrar-General's Comparability Factors have been suspended under present conditions, so that the Death Rate adjusted in accordance with these Factors is not available.

MATERNAL MORTALITY

Deaths from Puerperal Causes..Nil

Puerperal and post. abort. sepsis..Nil

Other maternal causes..Nil

Maternal Mortality for England and Wales per 1,000 live births	2.01
--	------

INFANTILE MORTALITY—

	Total	M	F
Legitimate	8	3	5
Illegitimate	2	2	—

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 live births	37.04
Death Rate of legitimate infants per 1,000 live births	29.63
Infantile Mortality for England & Wales	49

MORTALITY

The deaths include those of 39 persons in Institutions outside the district : 23 males, and 16 females.

The above rates are calculated on the estimated population given by the Registrar General.

The causes of death were :

Diphtheria	1
Tuberculosis of respiratory system ..	5
Other forms of Tuberculosis	1
Syphilitic diseases	1
Influenza	2
Cancer of buccal cavity and oesophagus (M) and uterus (F)	1
Cancer of stomach and duodenum	10
Cancer of breast	1
Cancer of all other sites	8
Diabetes	3
Intra-cranial vascular lesions	23
Heart disease	50
Other diseases of circulatory system ..	4
Bronchitis	20
Pneumonia	3
Other respiratory diseases	1
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	2
Diarrhoea, under 2 years.. .. .	2
Other digestive diseases	10
Nephritis	9
Premature birth	2
Congenital malformations, birth injuries, infantile diseases	6
Suicide	1
Road Traffic Accidents	3
Other violent causes.. .. .	12
All other causes.. .. .	35

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

SCABIES. The incidence of this disease has increased markedly in this country during the last few years, and the increased incidence has not spared the East Retford Rural District. In order to control the disease it became apparent that an organised attack on the causal parasite was necessary, and in April 1942 a treatment centre near Tuxford was opened. The necessary personnel were trained in modern treatment of the disease, and arrangements were made to transport patients and contacts to this centre by Civil Defence vehicles.

In the four months after opening the centre considerable difficulty was experienced in persuading patients to be treated there. It was not, however, found necessary to institute legal proceedings in any case under the Scabies Order, 1941, which gives the Medical Officer of Health powers of compulsory examination and treatment.

It is gratifying to record that little difficulty in persuading patients to attend for treatment was experienced in later months. The results of treatment were uniformly good, the drug employed being Benzyl Benzoate. The staff who carried out the treatment deserve great credit for the success which has attended their efforts. In certain cases, treatment at home was instituted, but results were not so satisfactory.

The investigation and control of this disease have taken up a great deal of my time, as it is necessary to visit each case reported to verify the diagnosis and investigate contacts and again to re-visit each case to ascertain that treatment has been satisfactory.

The number of cases notified (mainly by Health Visitors and School Nurses) during 1942 was 127. Of these 86 were treated at the Tuxford Centre ; 34 were treated at home ; 4 received institutional treatment ; 1 left the District before treatment could be started ; and 2 were found not to be suffering from the disease.

Steam disinfestation of clothing and bedding was carried out as required.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION. A national drive to increase the numbers of children immunised against diphtheria was undertaken during the year. In the East Retford Rural District every effort was made to persuade parents who had not already done so, to have their children immunised. The helpful co-operation of County School Teachers and Health Visitors in distributing leaflets, and in general persuasive methods is gratefully acknowledged. The Council sanctioned advertisements of the campaign in newspapers, circulating in the district, in co-operation with neighbouring Authorities.

The response to these measures can be described as fair. During the year 267 children under 5 years of age and 429 between the ages of 5 & 15 years of age were completely immunised ; the percentages of children of these age groups estimated to have been immunised at the 31st of December 1942 were 56.5% and 78.1% respectively, as compared with 37.7% and 62.4% a year earlier.

This result may be described as not unsatisfactory, but it is necessary for a higher percentage of children to be immunised before a decreased incidence of the disease may be confidently anticipated.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA. The increased amount of work caused by the Government Evacuation scheme, and other wartime activities has continued, but despite this the number of inspections carried out by the Inspectors would appear to be sufficient to carry out general sanitary surveillance of the district.

TUBERCULOSIS, 1942

Age Periods		New Cases				Deaths			
		Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non- Pulmonary	
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—2	..	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
2—3	..	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
3—4	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4—5	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—10	..	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
10—15	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—20	..	2	2	—	1	—	—	—	—
20—35	..	2	2	—	1	—	2	—	—
35—45	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—65	..	3	2	—	—	1	1	—	—
65and over	..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Totals	..	9	6	2	4	2	3	—	—

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Disease	Total Notified	Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever	38	36 (a)	—
Diphtheria	16	15 (a)	1
Pneumonia	25		3
Erysipelas	6		—
Puerperal Pyrexia	6		—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—		—
Dysentery	7		—
Typhoid	—		—
Cerebro Spinal Fever	1	1 (a)	—
Whooping Cough	42		—
Measles	44		—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	15	3 (b)	5
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	6	1 (b)	—
Totals ..	206	56	9

KEY.—(a) N. Carlton Isolation Hospital ; (b) Ransom Sanatorium

INFECTION DISEASES 1942

[illegible]



REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR for 1942

COWSHEDS.

Number of registered producers of milk in the district,
January, 1942 506

Number of new premises registered during the year.. .. Nil

Number of registered producers of milk in the district,
December, 1942.. .. . 506

Of the above number, 188 carry on the trade as retail milk purveyors.

Notices have been served during the year, requiring the following work to be carried out :

- | | |
|---|----|
| 1. Limewashing and cleansing of premises.. .. | 31 |
| 2. Removal of accumulations of refuse.. .. | 24 |
| 3. Additional light and ventilation to be provided .. | 7 |
| 4. Repairs to floors, paving, roof, etc... .. | 18 |
| 5. Improvements to drainage, etc. | 12 |
| 6. Provision of suitable dairy accommodation | 11 |

103

In addition to the above, the cowsheds, etc. on 3 premises occupied by registered cowkeepers have been completely reconstructed during the year.

301 inspections were made during the year of registered premises in the district.

MILK, SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS ORDERS, 1936—1938.

3 supplementary licences have been renewed by the Rural District Council to retailers of Pasteurised Milk in the district.

One registered cowkeeper in the rural district holds a licence to produce Tuberculin Tested Milk, issued by the Nottinghamshire County Council.

27 registered cowkeepers in the rural district hold licences to produce Accredited Milk, issued by the Nottinghamshire County Council.

DISINFECTION AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

All houses at which cases of notifiable infectious disease requiring investigation occurred have been visited, and disinfection has been arranged in appropriate cases.

This Council is one of the constituent authorities of the North Nottinghamshire Joint Hospital Board, to whose isolation hospital patients are removed from this district.

PUBLIC WATER SUPPLIES.

A piped water supply is available for the built-up areas in all Parishes in the Rural District, and the analyst's reports on weekly samples of water show the quality of the water to be satisfactory.

H O U S I N G .

SUMMARY :

Number of houses erected during the year 1942 :

(1) By private enterprise without subsidy :

Brick construction Nil

Timber construction.. Nil

(2) By the Council under the Housing Act 1936 Nil

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR :

i. (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 96

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose .. 146

ii. (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 Nil

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose .. Nil

iii. Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.. Nil

iv. Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 43

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICE :

Number of dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers 11

3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR :

- (a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 Nil
- (b) Proceedings under the Public Health Acts.. .. Nil
- (c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 Nil
- (d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act 1936 Nil

COMPLAINTS AND INSPECTIONS :

- 1. Number of complaints received during the year.. .. 67
- 2. Number of houses, premises, etc., inspected1327
- 3. Number of re-inspections of houses, premises, etc. .. 301

RESULTS OF INSPECTIONS :

NOTICES SERVED		Statutory	Informal
4. Abate of Nuisance	—	..	24
5. Provision of new drains, repairs, etc..	—	..	19
6. Provision of sanitary accommodation, repairs, etc.	—	..	10
7. Provision of wholesome water.. ..	—	..	48
	—	..	—
Totals ..	Nil	..	101

WORK CARRIED OUT AS A RESULT OF ABOVE NOTICES :

- 8. Houses, premises, etc., cleansed 5
- 9. Drains to houses and buildings, new provided 5
- 10. Drains to houses, repaired, cleansed, trapped, etc. ..37
- 11. Water closets, new provided.. .. . 3
- 12. Privies repaired 1
- 13. Pail closets, new provided and repaired.. .. . 3
- 14. Removals of refuse14
- 15. Paving, new provided and repaired 3

16. Sanitary Accommodation—Conversions :

Privies converted into pails.. ..	3
Pails converted to water closets	3

WATER SUPPLY :

17. New piped supplies from the public mains as the result of informal notices	34
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CANAL BOATS ACT :

Number of Canal Boats inspected.. ..	3
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LEGAL PROCEEDINGS :

Summonses	Nil
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